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June 25, 1959

MEMORANDUM OF CONFERENCE WITH THE PRESIDENT  
June 25, 1959 - following NSC

Others present: Secretaries Herter, McElroy, Gates,  
Admiral Burke, General White, General  
Lemnitz, General Pate, Mr. Allen  
Dulles, ..... Mr. Gordon  
Gray, General Goodpaster



The President said he feels some concern over our activities in West Berlin, specifically those in the fields of intelligence and propaganda. This is something that the Soviets are most sensitive to. The question in his mind is what are we getting out of it, and does the return justify the cost. Also, he wondered whether we are too elaborate in our whole set-up in the area.

The President told the Chiefs that there was in his opinion a great opportunity for the services having technical and expert personnel in the area.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, Sec. 3-204

MR 78-124 #10  
By DJH Date 12/5/80

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PORTIONS EXEMPTED

E.O. 12958, Sec. 1.201 (b)(1)(d)

Exe 11/18, CIA 11/18/59, NSC 11/18/59

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..... What he had in mind was to streamline our whole intelligence organization, cutting out duplication. Admiral Burke said this is being done to a great extent. The President then said that the JCS should require the experts to come before them and state their case as to what they are doing and what can be done to streamline. ....

..... Mr. Dulles cited some examples of very close cooperation, through committees in some of the centers overseas, and through the USIB here in Washington. The President asked if after coordination the agencies in the overseas centers sent a single report back to Washington or whether they sent back separate reports. Mr. Dulles acknowledged that this was a very key point and said he would have it studied, since he thought there might be something that could be done in the way of improvement in this area.



The President said that all the processes of collection, evaluation in the field, transmission, and evaluation back here should be reviewed by the JCS to see what could be done to reduce duplication between the services. He would value their judgment in this regard.


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Mr. McElroy said he would see reason for agreeing to curtail our activities on a basis of reciprocity with the Soviets. The President commented that subversive activities are inherently something that can't be checked as to performance of any agreement reached. He thought that unilateral statements were about all that could be accomplished.

Mr. Herter noted that the Soviets have never mentioned the matter of refugees during the discussions. They have talked only

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about radio and subversive operations. RIAS in fact is carrying out very little broadcasting that could be called propaganda -- two very short programs only, the elimination of which would be inconsequential. Mr. McElroy said that the RIAS has a very great morale value, and should be kept up, perhaps even broadcasting to West Germany.

  
A. J. Goodpaster  
Brigadier General, USA



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